

**MULTI-NODE USER INTERFACE COMPONENT AND METHOD
THEREOF FOR USE IN PERFORMING A COMMON
OPERATION ON LINKED RECORDS**

Abstract of the Disclosure

5 A user interface component and method of using the same graphically display
linked records with node display elements representing individual records, and optional
link display elements representing the links therebetween. The user interface
component may be automatically and dynamically generated during navigation between
linked records, such that whenever a new link is taken from a record represented by a
10 node display element, a new node display element is generated. In addition, the user
interface component may further be configured to graphically represent the particular
location of a particular link within a record, as well as a scroll display element
associated with selected node display elements such that specific data or locations
within the records associated therewith may be accessed. Moreover, the user interface
15 component may also be configured to incorporate a retrieve progress display element
that indicates a current status of a retrieve operation for a record. Individual node
display elements within a user interface component may also separately indicate status
information for their associated records, e.g., displaying a cache status and/or a
matching status that indicates whether associated records match a predetermined search
20 criteria, among others. The user interface component may also be utilized to perform
common operations such as printing, caching and loading, among others, on selected
records in response to user selection of the nodes associated with the selected records.